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## Cuban Defeat 'Humiliating'; Washington Doesn't Despair

THE CUBAN FIASCO has left the leaders of the American government a thoroughly chastened and somewhat more humble lot. While the details of our involvement with the Cuban counter-revolutionaries have not been spelled out, the American government's support of the attempted invasion is perfectly clear.

Words such as "badly managed," "inept," and a "humiliating trouncing," are being used to describe the Cuban affair. Words such as these were heard by newsmen, in Washington this week for a background briefing by high administration officials. The words came from people high within the administration.

Those who read the daily papers know pretty well the attitude of the administration, from President Kennedy on down. The President has made it clear that he accepts responsibility and that there is no desire to shift any blame to any previous administration.

No one in authority in Washington is saying these days just what did go wrong but it is evident there's enough blame for all to share. Even the newspapers are not escaping, with some officials suggesting that too many stories were written about Cuban refugees training for counter-revolution.

Official Washington's reply to questions these days about blame is "wait until the task force has made its report." Gen. Maxwell Taylor, Attorney General Kennedy, CIA Director Allen Dulles and Adm. Arleigh Burke have been charged with probing the responsibility of finding out what went wrong. Whether that report will be made public is anyone's guess.

Meanwhile, the soul-searching in the administration is producing one result—a growing realization of the complexities of the world's problems and our involvement in them.

Administration sources list Cuba, Laos, Africa, Viet Nam, Berlin as the immediate hot spots. Communist China looms large on the horizon, particularly when she perfects her own atomic weapons.

The next ten years have been characterized as a period of great danger for the Free World. However, it is admitted that it is likely hazards will continue as long as two powerful governmental systems such as the United States and Russia conflict.

But what is happening in Washington seems to be a pause, an evaluation of methods and programs, and while there has been discouragement, there is no despair. Rather there seems to be a hardening of purpose, born of the realization that the foe is more resourceful, tougher than had been anticipated.

That the battle will be pressed, at different times, on many fields, is certain.

Ways and means even now are being discussed.